GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3837
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005
AGE GROUP OF YOUTHS
Ananth Kumar Shri ;Dhanaraju Dr. K.;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to form sub groups of youths with the age group of 13-35;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of age group will be there;

(c) if not, the manner in which a scheme could be viable for the age group of 15-19 and 28-35;

(d) whether the Government is acknowledging the psycological, physical, mental and social differences between 15 years old boy and 35 years old man;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government has acknowledged the various problems being faced by these age groups;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the steps taken by the Government to promote sports career for our young generation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Youth Policy, 2003 approved by the Government has defined all the `Youth` in the country as falling in the age group of 13 to 35 years. The age group of 13 to 35 years consists of conglomeration of sub-groups with differing social roles and requirements. As such, this age group is divided into two broad sub-groups viz. 13-19 years and 20-35 years. The Youth belonging to the age group 13-19 constitutes a major part of the adolescent age group.

(c) Since all the youth in the age group of 13 to 35 years will be covered under the ongoing schemes of this Ministry, there will be no difficulty for operation of the scheme for the two sub-groups of 15-19 and 20-35.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A different scheme under the name of the scheme of Development and Empowerment of Adolescents (10-19 rears) keeping in view the differences of psychological, physical, mental and social needs of adolescents has been launched since October, 2004.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) The Government has realised the difficulties faced by the youth in eight sectors i.e. education, training and employment, Health and Family Welfare, Preservation of Environment Ecology and Wild Life, Recreation and Sports, Arts and Culture, Science and Technology and Civics and the Citizenship. The Youth Policy has identified following target groups in this regard:

1. Rural and Tribal Youth

2. Out of School Youth

3. Adolescents particularly female adolescents

4. Youth with disabilities

5. Youth under especially difficult circumstances like victims of trafficking orphans and street children.

(h) With a view to attract the young generation to take sports as a career, the following schemes are being implemented:

1. Sports Scholarship Scheme:- Under this scheme, scholarships are given to the position holders (1st, 2nd and 3rd) in sports at State level, National and University/College levels @Rs.550/-per month, Rs. 700/- per month and Rs.850/- per month respectively. Special Scholarship for Women are also given to the Senior Women Champions, Women doing diploma courses in sports Coaching at SAI Centre and for Women doing M.Phil/Ph.D in Physical Education.

2. Scheme relating to Awards: Under the scheme, awards are given to the winners in International Sports Events, such as Olympic Games, World Cup/World Championships, Asian Games, Asian and Commonwealth Championships. Special Awards are also given to the winners in Chess. Awards range from Rs.30,000/- to 30,00,000/-.

3. As per the existing instructions of Department of Personnel & Training, 5% vacancies are required to be filled up in various Central Ministries/Departments/ Establishment by meritorious sportspersons relaxing the recruitment rules.